United Nations A/C.4/58/SR.21

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session

Official Records

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Fourth Committee

Summary record of the 21st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 11 October 2003, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Loedel ..... (Uruguay)

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Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories *(continued)*

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03-60829 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

The meeting was suspended at 10.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.10 a.m.

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*)

Draft resolutions A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, A/C.4/58/L.10, A/C.4/58/L.11, A/C.4/58/L.12, A/C.4/58/L.13, A/C.4/58/L.14/Rev.1, A/C.4/58/L.15, A/C.4/58/L.16 and A/C.4/58/L.22

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*)

Draft resolutions A/C.4/58/L.17, A/C.4/58/L.18, A/C.4/58/L.19, A/C.4/58/L.20 and A/C.4/58/L.21

1. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that in view of the fact that it was a holiday, that many delegations had not yet received instructions from their Governments and that the draft resolutions related to very important agenda items which required the broadest possible consensus, voting on the draft resolutions should be deferred until Thursday, 13 November, in order to facilitate mediation efforts.

2. **Mr. Cunningham** (United States of America) supported the Italian proposal but asked that common sense should prevail in the voting on the draft resolutions relating to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

3. The intention of his Government, which sponsored one of the draft resolutions, was to demonstrate full support for UNRWA through a draft resolution adopted by consensus that would include all donors and consolidate the various resolutions on UNRWA within the context of the reform of the General Assembly.

4. He noted that during the past month three United States nationals who had been providing assistance to Palestinian refugees had died in the Gaza Strip and that the United States was the individual donor contributing the greatest amount of funds to the organization.

5. He hoped that the draft resolutions would be adopted by consensus in their present form and said that his Government was prepared to waive the requirement to submit reports, with a view to reducing the workload of the Secretariat. That proposal would benefit all parties: the international community, the General Assembly and its reform process and, most important, the Palestinian refugees themselves. For that reason, his Government was confident that the interests of the Agency and those of the Palestinian refugees would be taken into consideration in the voting and that the wrong message would not be sent to the community of donors.

6. **The Chairman** said that if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to defer the taking of decisions on the draft resolutions.

7. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.

United Nations A/C.4/58/SR.22

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Official Records

Distr.: General
26 October 2004
English
Original: Russian

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 22nd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 13 November 2003, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Loedel ..... (Uruguay)

Contents

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*)

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03-61129 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*) (A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, 10-13, 14/Rev.1, 15, 16 and 22)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*) (A/C.4/58/L.17, 18, 19/Rev.1, 20/Rev.1 and 21)

1. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, and supported by Mr. Keiswetter (United States of America), proposed that the Committee should defer the adoption of decisions on all the draft resolutions for two hours in the hope that improvements might be made to the whole package of draft resolutions.

2. **Ms. Abdelhady-Nasser** (Observer for Palestine) supported the proposal.

3. **Mr. Musonda** (Zambia) said that it might be more sensible to postpone the meeting until the following day.

4. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy) said that he would be willing to postpone the meeting until 3 p.m.

5. **Mr. Mekdad** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that it was time for the Committee to conclude its consideration of the issues and to proceed to the adoption of decisions at the current meeting, no later than noon.

6. **The Chairman** said, that he had been informed by the Secretariat that it would be possible to hold a meeting in the afternoon. He took it that the Committee found that acceptable.

7. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 10.35 a.m.

United Nations A/C.4/58/SR.23

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Official Records

Distr.: General
2 November 2004
English
Original: Russian

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 23rd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 13 November 2003, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Ms. Ognjanovac (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Croatia)

Contents

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*)

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03-61326 (E)

In the absence of Mr. Loedel (Uruguay), Ms. Ognjanovac (Croatia), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*) (A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, 10-13, 14/Rev.1, 15, 16 and 22)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*) (A/C.4/58/L.17, 18, 19/Rev.1, 20/Rev.1 and 21)

1. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that consultations on the draft resolutions were still under way, but, so far as she knew, some progress had been made.

The meeting was suspended at 3.25 p.m. and resumed at 4.20 p.m.

2. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the participants in the consultations were close to agreement but several of them needed to await instructions from their capitals.

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.

United Nations A/C.4/58/SR.24

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Official Records

Distr.: General
15 November 2004
English
Original: Russian

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 24th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 14 November 2003, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Ms. Ognjanovac (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Croatia)

Contents

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*)

Organization of work

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03-61344 (E)

In the absence of Mr. Loedel (Uruguay), Ms. Ognjanovac (Croatia), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

Agenda item 83: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (*continued*) (A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, L.10-L.13, L.14/Rev.1, L.15, L.16 and L.22)

Agenda item 84: Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (*continued*) (A/C.4/58/L.17, L.18, L.19/Rev.1, L.20/Rev.1 and L.21)

1. **The Chairman** said that negotiations on the draft resolutions were still under way and that more time was required. She suggested a half-hour suspension of the meeting.

2. **Mr. Estremé** (Argentina) said that the Committee had postponed a decision on agenda items 83 and 84 several times. Each meeting cost thousands of dollars and delegations' time was being wasted. That was regrettable. The work of the Committee must be revitalized and streamlined.

3. The delegation of Argentina stressed that transparency was lacking in the ongoing negotiations. Delegations had no information about the nature of the issues discussed and no opportunity to seek instructions from their capitals. Given the importance of the items under consideration, delegations must have complete and timely information.

4. Next year, negotiations on such draft resolutions should begin earlier to avoid postponements.

5. **Mr. Musonda** (Zambia), supporting the representative of Argentina, said that delegations which had not participated in the negotiations had no information on what had taken place. He would like to know when the negotiations would end. Perhaps the meeting should be postponed until the following week to avoid wasting time.

6. **Mr. McIvor** (New Zealand), noting that the negotiation process was complex, said that his delegation had no objection to granting the extra time required to obtain positive results from the negotiations.

7. The current procedure was ineffective and a pointless waste of time. More time was needed to consider the substantive amendments to the draft resolutions and to consult with capitals.

8. **Mr. Al-Kidwa** (Observer for Palestine), noting that the ongoing negotiations were complex, said that the delays had occurred because delegations participating in the negotiations had been awaiting instructions from their capitals. The items under consideration were extremely significant, and a vote must be held as soon as possible. Eight of the resolutions were not the subject of negotiations: none of them would be changed in any way. General changes might be made to the ninth resolution.

9. **Mr. Pemagbi** (Sierra Leone) said that at some stage negotiations were inevitably limited to a small number of countries and that not all Committee members needed to take part in them. Supported by **Mr. Musonda** (Zambia), he proposed that the Committee should take immediate decisions on the resolutions on which there was no disagreement and vote on the complex and controversial resolutions later, when the concerned parties had reached consensus. That would reflect the stated objective of revitalizing the work of the General Assembly and the Main Committees.

10. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the Presidency of the Union, in particular, fully shared the disappointment of many delegations over the ongoing discussions and constant postponements. Many delegations remained in the dark and wanted to know when the vote would be taken. The draft resolutions must be finalized and put to a vote. The drafting should be completed in no more than 30 minutes and then a vote should be taken.

11. **Ms. Price** (Canada) said that, while her delegation shared the disappointment of others over the lack of consensus, it still preferred to proceed to the vote on all the resolutions immediately.

12. **Mr. Laggner** (Switzerland) said that his delegation also shared his colleagues' disappointment; nevertheless, he supported the idea of granting 30 to 40 minutes to finalize the draft resolutions.

13. **Ms. Ferrari** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) wondered whether the 30 minutes had not already elapsed.

14. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy) said that the European Union would not object to voting first on the non-controversial draft resolutions and proposed that there should be an immediate decision on the draft resolutions under agenda item 84 and then a half-hour suspension to complete work on the draft resolution on the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) before proceeding to a vote.

15. **Mr. Al-Kidwa** (Observer for Palestine) and **Mr. Issa** (Lebanon) said that it would make far more sense to proceed to the vote on the four draft resolutions under agenda item 83 and then consider the draft resolutions under agenda item 84 that were still under discussion.

16. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, and **Mr. Keiswetter** (United States of America) called for an immediate suspension to finalize the draft resolutions.

17. **Ms. Abdelhady-Nasser** (Observer for Palestine) said that her delegation was prepared to accept that proposal.

18. Following a request for clarification by **Mr. Pemagbi** (Sierra Leone), **the Chairman** said that a decision would be taken on the draft resolutions after the suspension regardless of whether consensus had been reached on all of them. Decisions on draft resolutions on which there was no agreement might be postponed.

The meeting was suspended at 11.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.35 a.m.

19. **Mr. Zhang** Saijin (Secretary of the Committee) said that draft resolutions A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, L.10-L.13, L.14/Rev.1, L.15, L.16, L.18, L.19/Rev.1, L.20/Rev.1, L.21 and L.22 had no programme budget implications. With respect to subparagraphs 8 (a), (b), (c) and (d) of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17, the Secretary-General was requested to provide the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories with all necessary facilities to investigate Israeli policies and practices. It should be recalled that the General Assembly had allocated $236,300 to the Special Committee during the 2002-2003 biennium and $248,300 during the 2004-2005 biennium. Thus draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17 also had no programme budget implications and required no additional appropriations.

Draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 83

20. **Mr. El Badri** (Egypt), speaking on behalf of the Group of Arab States, Malaysia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, proposed that the order of consideration of the draft resolutions before the Committee should be changed, in accordance with rule 131 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and that the Committee should first take up draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.10.

21. *The proposal was adopted.*

22. **Mr. Percaya** (Indonesia), introducing several draft resolutions, said he would introduce only four draft resolutions under agenda item 83 on behalf of the sponsors, although seven draft resolutions similar to those traditionally adopted under that item had originally been submitted to the Committee for consideration. In the light of concerns expressed by Committee members and their calls for consolidation of some draft resolutions, the sponsors had reduced the number of draft resolutions submitted for consideration while retaining the essential elements. The four draft resolutions fully reflected the importance of the work of UNRWA and affirmed the rights of the Palestinian refugees and displaced persons. The Committee would be taking a decision on the following draft resolutions: A/C.4/58/L.10, entitled "Assistance to Palestinian refugees"; A/C.4/58/L.12, entitled "Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities"; A/C.4/58/L.14/Rev.1, entitled "Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East"; and A/C.4/58/L.15, entitled "Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues".

23. He briefly informed Committee members about the substance of the draft resolutions and introduced an oral revision to draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.14/Rev.1, consisting of the addition at the end of paragraph 4 of the following words: "as reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 (Supplement No. 13, addendum A/58/13/Add.1)".

24. He expressed the hope that the draft resolutions would receive the broadest possible support.

25. **Mr. van den Berg** (Netherlands) said that, given the joint efforts made by delegations, his delegation was withdrawing draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.11.

Resolutions on that issue had always been adopted by consensus, and therefore his delegation had decided to withdraw it, with some regret; but the notion of consolidating draft resolutions was more important.

26. **Mr. Vrooman** (United States of America) drew attention to a non-paper in which revisions were introduced to draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, entitled "Assistance to Palestine refugees and support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East", and said that the following countries had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

27. The following revisions were introduced to draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1: the words "and its resolutions 57/117, 57/118, 57/119, 57/120, 57/121, 57/122 and 57/123 of 11 December 2002" were deleted from the second preambular paragraph. The phrase "regretting the death of six Agency staff members during the reporting period" was deleted from the sixth preambular paragraph, and made into a separate paragraph following it. In the eighth preambular paragraph the words "compliance with applicable obligations under" should be deleted, and after the words "Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations" the following phrase should be added: "with regard to the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the Agency, including throughout the occupied territories." The remaining part of that paragraph should be made into a new preambular paragraph, to read as follows: "*Stressing also* the need for respect of international humanitarian law." After that paragraph a new preambular paragraph should be added to read as follows: "*Emphasizing* the obligations of all Parties in accordance with the Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949."

28. In the operative part, in paragraph 10, the words from "and calls upon the Agency to continue to work" to the end of the paragraph, as well as all of paragraph 13, should be deleted.

29. **Mr. Hassan** (Jordan), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of document A/C.4/58/L.22, said that, given the compromise reached between the parties concerned, the sponsors would no longer insist on a decision on amendments to draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1 contained therein.

30. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the European Union had joined the sponsors of draft resolutions A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, L.10 and L.15 and would vote in favour of all five draft resolutions under the item.

31. **The Chairman** said that the following States had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.10: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The following States had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.12: the Comoros, Guinea, Indonesia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali and the Sudan; and Guinea, Mali and Mauritania had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.14/Rev.1. The following States joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.15: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Comoros, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The following States joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1: Albania, Croatia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau and Uganda.

32. **Mr. Hassan** (Jordan), speaking on behalf of the Arab States in explanation of vote before the vote, said that the Arab States would abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, as revised, because it did not specifically mention General Assembly

resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, which was the basis for the settlement of the Palestinian question. The efforts made on the draft resolution, as orally revised, were much appreciated; however, in future there should be prior consultations with the parties concerned. The efforts of the past few weeks were a step in the right direction towards reaching consensus on the matter in the future.

33. **Mr. Suriya** (Thailand), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that the international community had long been pursuing the humanitarian objective of improving the plight of the Palestinian refugees, and therefore his delegation would be voting in favour of all of the draft resolutions on UNRWA. In accordance with its long-standing humanitarian traditions, his Government had made a contribution of $30,000 to UNRWA. At the same time, the only real solution for ending the suffering of the Palestinian refugees was a prompt, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful political settlement based on Security Council resolutions. His delegation hoped that the parties concerned would work together on implementing the road map put forward by the Quartet.

34. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.10.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Honduras, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, United States of America.

35. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.10 was adopted by 159 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.*

36. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.12.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab

Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Honduras, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu.

37. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.12 was adopted by 156 votes to 5, with 6 abstentions.*

38. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.14/Rev.1, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nauru, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

39. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.14/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted by 150 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.*

40. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.15.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte

d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Fiji, Honduras, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

41. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.15 was adopted by 153 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions.*

42. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

43. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted by 109 votes to none, with 54 abstentions.*

44. **Mr. Mekel** (Israel) said that his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1 as a sign of its respect for the serious efforts of the original sponsors of the draft resolution to depoliticize the resolution on UNRWA and of its belief that the outcome achieved was a step in the right direction.

45. Israel had always believed that resolutions on UNRWA should not be political, that the efforts made by the major donors to UNRWA should not be undermined by diplomatic manoeuvres, that there was no reason to make concessions to support unreasonable positions and that it was unacceptable to transfer verbatim a consensus text to an entirely superficial mirror resolution on "Operations".

46. Unfortunately, the good will and readiness to compromise shown during the discussion of the draft resolutions had been interpreted by some as weakness and a basis for making more and more unreasonable demands.

47. With respect to the reference to the Geneva Conventions in the text of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1 and the status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Israel's position was well known and the Israeli delegation supported the resolution on that understanding.

48. Israel would like once again to express its gratitude to all delegations that had made efforts to draft a single, non-politicized and consolidated text. Israel also recognized that much more needed to be done to ensure that United Nations resolutions were not made into platforms for advancing one-sided positions.

49. **Mr. Balarezo** (Peru) said that his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.10, L.14/Rev.1 and L.15, but had a reservation concerning the references to General Assembly resolution 194 (III), which did not reflect the developments on the ground or take into account subsequent resolutions. The references also seemed to prejudge the outcome of the negotiations.

Draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 84

50. **Mr. Requeijo Gual** (Cuba) introduced the following draft resolutions: A/C.4/58/L.17 on the work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories; A/C.4/58/L.18 on the applicability of the Geneva Convention; A/C.4/58/L.19/Rev.1 on Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan; A/C.4/58/L.20/Rev.1 on Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the Occupied Palestinian Territories; and A/C.4/58/L.21 on the occupied Syrian Golan.

51. He briefly reviewed the content of the draft resolutions and made an oral revision to draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.18. In the third preambular paragraph, the following phrase should be added after the words "of 12 August 1949": "and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol 1 to the four Geneva Conventions".

52. In draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.19/Rev.1, the following oral revision was made: the word "unlawful" was deleted before the word "wall" in the tenth preambular paragraph, and in the English version of paragraph 4 the phrase "which is a departure" was substituted for "which is in departure".

53. **The Chairman** said that Guinea and Mali had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17 and L.18, and Guinea had also become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.21.

54. **Mr. Mekel** (Israel), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that Israel would vote against the draft resolution on the work of the Special Committee, because its activities did not promote peace and reconciliation between the parties. The roots of the Special Committee's bias lay in its very mandate. His Government believed that the Special Committee must be disbanded as soon as possible.

55. According to information submitted by the Secretariat, the budget implications of the draft resolutions amounted to $230,000, which could have been spent on improving the situation of the Palestinian refugees.

56. His Government strongly urged other Member States desiring peace and reconciliation in the Middle East to vote against the draft resolution.

57. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17.*

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

58. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17 was adopted by 85 votes to 7, with 73 abstentions.*

59. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.18, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

60. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.18, as orally revised, was adopted by 155 votes to 6, with 7 abstentions.*

61. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.19/Rev.1, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

62. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.19/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted by 149 votes to 7, with 12 abstentions.*

63. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.20/Rev.1.*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South

Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Australia, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Rwanda, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu.

64. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.20*/Rev.1 *was adopted by 141 votes to 7, with 19 abstentions.*

65. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.21.*

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Nauru, Solomon Islands.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Fiji, Honduras, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Rwanda, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu.

66. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.21 was adopted by 155 votes to 3, with 11 abstentions.*

67. **Mr. Price** (Canada) said that his delegation had again abstained in the vote on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17 on the work of the Special Committee. His Government condemned the violence and was concerned about the suffering of Palestinians and Israelis alike. The draft resolution contained several elements that were not conducive to dialogue and peace. The value of the work of the Special Committee was also questionable.

68. His delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.20/Rev.1 on Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people, following its long-standing opposition to the practices described in the draft resolution, and taking into account the useful additions made to the text. Reference to the practices of only one side, however, did not promote the cause of peace. With regard to the sixteenth preamubular paragraph, his Government believed that any international presence to monitor the situation must be agreed by both parties.

69. **Mr. Carnelos** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, and also Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, said that, as in past years, the European Union had abstained in the vote on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.17 on the work of the Special Committee. The responsibilities of the Special Committee did not reflect the current situation, and the issues that it was considering would be better dealt with in other forums.

70. The European Union reiterated its firm commitment to seeking a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the Middle East question on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1397 (2002) and also the road map drawn up by the Quartet. It strongly urged swift implementation of the road map and expressed its readiness, including as a Quartet member, to assist in a final settlement of the conflict in the Middle East in close cooperation with the parties concerned.

71. **Mr. Thomson** (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) said that his delegation had abstained in the vote on draft resolution A/C.4./58/L.20/Rev.1. Two parties were involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, each of them with commitments and responsibilities. The conflict had caused suffering for Israelis and Palestinians alike. Ignoring the suffering of one party was no way to build trust between the two sides. There was no condemnation in the draft resolution of the attacks of the suicide bombers against Israeli citizens, which did not help to settle the dispute or accurately reflect the existing situation.

72. **Ms. Sereno** (Uruguay) said that her delegation, as in past years, had voted for draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.19/Rev.1 on the Israeli settlements, because it agreed with its main thrust: the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories were illegal and placed serious obstacles in the way of peace. Unfortunately, the text of the current draft contained references to matters not strictly related to the subject of the resolution. The question of the wall built by Israel had already been considered in another resolution adopted by the General Assembly. An unfortunate precedent was being set by introducing extraneous issues into a previously well-focused resolution. It was regrettable that, just as the General Assembly was making efforts to revitalize its work, the force and impact of its resolutions was being weakened by overextending their scope and casting doubt on their true intent.

73. **Mr. Blazey** (Australia) said that his delegation had voted for draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.18 and condemned any act that violated the Fourth Geneva Convention. However, his Government reiterated its concern over the references in the preamble to the Conference of High Contracting Parties and the Declaration adopted by it. Australia, which had not participated in that conference, considered that the Declaration should not be interpreted to mean that Israel had violated or was violating article 147 of the Convention.

74. Concerning draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.19/Rev.1, his Government considered that the settlements in the territory seized in 1967 violated international law and hindered the peace process. It called on Israel to freeze all settlement activity and dismantle the "settlement outposts" in accordance with the road map. However, his delegation had abstained in the vote on the draft resolution, as it considered it unbalanced, although it welcomed the deletion of the word "illegal" from the tenth preambular paragraph. While Israel's need to take defensive action was understandable, such measures should not worsen the hardships endured by ordinary Palestinians. None of the parties should take actions that further complicated the outcome of the negotiations.

75. Australia had abstained in the vote on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.20/Rev.1 as well, because the text was unbalanced.

76. **Mr. Atieh** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the broad support given to the resolutions under consideration at the current meeting showed that Israel was isolated. The international community had made it known that a continuation of the occupation, including the annexation of the Syrian Golan, was unacceptable and had called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories. The importance of the work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices had been reaffirmed, and the Syrian delegation urged all delegations to support the work of that body in the future.

77. The Syrian Arab Republic strongly supported the peace process, whose outcome would directly affect it: that process was making a significant contribution to the prospects for a just and lasting peace in the Middle

East. He noted that a number of States had abstained in the vote on the draft resolution on the occupied Syrian Golan and urged them to vote in favour of the same resolution when it was considered in a General Assembly plenary meeting.

78. **Ms. Abdelhady-Nasser** (Observer for Palestine), referring to the draft resolutions adopted under agenda item 83, said that her delegation had agreed to work on the package of four resolutions instead of the usual seven in the belief that the consolidation would streamline procedures. The four resolutions appropriately reflected the most important points concerning the Palestinian refugees, displaced persons and UNRWA. Moreover, her delegation had sought to avoid confrontation of any kind and anything that might undermine the Agency and its work. It had tried to maintain the political and legal context and principles that should defend and support the work of UNRWA and also the rights and needs of the Palestinian refugees. General Assembly resolution 194 (III), which was the basis for a just settlement of the refugee problem, was therefore particularly significant.

79. Noting with satisfaction the compromise reached on draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.9/Rev.1, the Palestinian delegation believed that, in view of the adoption of the four traditional resolutions, the draft was redundant and did not promote the stated goal of streamlining the draft resolutions on the relevant item. In future draft resolutions on such important matters should be submitted only after thorough consultations with her delegation and interested parties, as well as with due respect for the sponsors. It was clear that all those who had participated in the agreement on the draft resolution had tried to defend the interests of UNRWA and ensure that the necessary assistance was provided to the Palestinian refugees. That applied to the main donors as well; the Palestinian delegation reiterated its gratitude to all donor countries for their support of the Agency. Given that the Palestinian refugees continued to suffer hardship, the work of UNRWA remained urgent, and the reaffirmation of steadfast principles and positions with regard to the Palestinian refugees and their rights remained absolutely necessary.

80. Concerning the resolutions adopted under agenda item 84, as the statements made by delegations during the discussions made clear, the situation of the Palestinians' rights that had arisen as a result of the illegal policies and practices of Israel continued to raise serious concerns. In that regard, the work of the Special Committee remained especially pertinent. Therefore, the disparaging remarks about that body reiterated by the Israeli representative were regrettable.

81. Her delegation noted with satisfaction the impressive support given to the draft resolutions under the item in question. It was unfortunate, however, that some States members of the European Union (albeit a minority) had changed their position with regard to one of the resolutions on the item under consideration.

82. In conclusion, she expressed her gratitude to delegations for their support of the important resolutions adopted. She also hoped that in the future the Committee would avoid confusion and delays in the work so that optimal solutions to such important matters might be reached.

83. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had completed its consideration of agenda items 83 and 84.

Organization of work

84. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had completed its work for the main part of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 1.40 p.m.

United Nations A/C.4/58/SR.25

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
16 July 2004

Original: English

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 25th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 10 June 2004, at 11.15 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Loedel ..... (Uruguay)

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Election of the Chairman and officers for the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly

Completion of the Committee's work

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Fditing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

04-38939 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 11.15 a.m.

Election of the Chairman and officers for the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly

1. **The Chairman** recalled that, in accordance with rule 99 (a) of the Rules of Procedure as amended by General Assembly resolution 56/509 as well as rule 103 as amended by General Assembly resolution 58/126, annex B, paragraph 9, all the Main Committees were required to elect a Chairman and a full bureau at least three months before the opening of the session.

2. Mr. Swe (Myanmar) had been nominated for election to the office of Chairman for the fifty-ninth session. In the absence of further nominations and in accordance with rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure, he would take it that the Committee wished to elect Mr. Swe (Myanmar) Chairman.

3. *Mr. Swe (Myanmar) was elected Chairman by acclamation.*

4. **The Chairman** said that the Group of Eastern European States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and other States had nominated respectively Mr. Droba (Slovakia), Mr. Calderon (Ecuador) and Mr. Helfried (Austria) for the posts of Vice-Chairmen, and the Group of African States had nominated Mr. Kabtani (Tunisia) for the post of Rapporteur.

5. *Mr. Droba (Slovakia), Mr. Calderon (Ecuador) and Mr. Helfried (Austria) were elected Vice-Chairmen and Mr. Kabtani (Tunisia) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.*

Completion of the Committee's work

6. **The Chairman** declared that the Committee had completed its work for the fifty-eighth session.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.

United Nations A/C.4/58/SR.26

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
29 July 2004

Original: English

Fourth Committee

Summary record of the 26th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 23 June 2004, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Loedel ..... (Uruguay)

Contents

Agenda item 85: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*)

Completion of the Committee's work

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Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

04-39991 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

Agenda item 85: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*) (A/58/19, A/58/694 and A/C.4/58/L.23)

1. **The Chairman** recalled that, by its resolution 57/336, the General Assembly had decided that the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, and should review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in that field. Those proposals were contained in paragraphs 29 to 177 of the Special Committee's report (A/58/19). He also drew the attention of the Committee to the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/58/694).

2. **Mr. Berry** (Canada), speaking on behalf of the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, introduced the report of the Special Committee, and said that, as in previous years, the report emphasized the guiding principles that remained essential for peacekeeping operations.

3. Drawing attention to the recommendations contained in the report, he said that the Special Committee urged Member States to become parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and reiterated the need for enhanced coordination among the safety and security components of the United Nations. It welcomed the introduction of joint mission analysis cells, and would consider the request of the Secretary-General for a full-time safety and security focal point and a mission security management unit within the context of the overall review of the United Nations security management system.

4. The Special Committee stressed the need for increased consultations between the Security Council, the Secretariat and the troop-contributing countries, and looked forward to better information-sharing between them. If regional and subregional organizations were helped to strengthen their peacekeeping capacities, they and the United Nations would benefit. The Special Committee recommended that the United Nations should expand its contacts with such organizations, and that bilateral and multilateral efforts to enhance African peacekeeping capacities should be coordinated.

5. The Special Committee stressed the need for strengthened cooperation and coordination among the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, the Bretton Woods institutions, donors, non-governmental organizations and civil society during implementation of comprehensive and coherent strategies for complex peacekeeping operations, including disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, rule of law, quick-impact projects and mine action. A similar level of cooperation and coordination was needed in the area of children and peacekeeping. The Special Committee encouraged interdepartmental coordination between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Public Information.

6. The Organization's capacity to draw on lessons learned and best practices should be further enhanced. On the issue of rapid deployment, the Special Committee felt that the Standby Arrangements System, strategic deployment stocks and rapidly deployable headquarters should be used to the fullest possible extent.

7. Following an intensive discussion of discipline, recruitment and training of peacekeeping personnel, the Special Committee encouraged Member States to improve discipline in a preventive manner, but stressed that cases of alleged misconduct must be handled through cooperation between mission leadership and the troop-contributing countries concerned. It welcomed and encouraged the development of the standardized training modules.

8. The Special Committee supported the increasing integration of civilian police expertise in the integrated mission planning process, integrated mission task forces and mission assessment teams. It took note of the clarification from the Secretariat regarding the legal status of civilian police and corrections personnel, but continued to believe that their tasks required an adaptation of the current rules governing their legal status.

9. Sharing the Secretary-General's concern about the low representation of women in peacekeeping operations, the Special Committee wished to see more female candidates for senior civilian appointments and for military and civilian police positions at all levels

and recognized the need for a gender mainstreaming strategy for peacekeeping operations. It recommended that gender experts be included in pre-mandate assessment missions.

10. Recognizing that the current surge in peacekeeping operations would pose challenges in terms of financial and human resources, the Special Committee urged all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions. It noted that delays in the payment of reimbursements and claims had continued to be addressed, and encouraged further progress, but it was concerned that the 2004 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment had been unable to reach consensus.

11. Recognizing that HIV/AIDS was a major health concern for both peacekeepers and the local population, the Special Committee urged the Secretary-General to make the position of HIV/AIDS Policy Adviser a permanent one.

12. Emphasizing the importance of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, declared by the General Assembly in resolution 57/129, the Special Committee welcomed the Memorial to the Fallen, and requested the Secretary-General to make recommendations on the permanent and public display of the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal.

Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.23

13. **Mr. Berry** (Canada), speaking on behalf of the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, introduced the draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects" (A/C.4/58/L.23), which, like the resolutions of previous years, welcomed the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, endorsed its proposals, recommendations and conclusions, and urged Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to implement them. The draft resolution also reiterated the modalities for participation in the Special Committee, decided that it should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of peacekeeping operations, and requested the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

14. **Mr. Zhang** (Secretary of the Committee), speaking on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, said that under paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would endorse the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 29 to 177 of its report. If the General Assembly were to adopt the draft resolution, any costs associated with establishing a safety and security focal point within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations would be considered as part of the ongoing strategic review of overall United Nations security arrangements to be addressed in the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the security and safety of United Nations operations, staff and premises to be presented to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session. The bilateral and group meetings referred to in the report of the Special Committee would be small and would not require significant conference services support or, therefore, additional resources.

15. **The Chairman** said that the sponsors of the draft resolution had requested that it should be adopted without a vote.

16. *Draft resolution A/C.4/58/L.23 was adopted.*

Completion of the Committee's work

17. **The Chairman** declared that the Special Political and Decolonization Committee had completed its work for the fifty-eighth session.

The meeting rose at 10.50 a.m.